

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 090755
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ARA-06 DHA-02 TRSE-00 AID-05
EB-08 OMB-01 ACDA-07 IGA-02 NEA-10 /122 R

DRAFTED BY AF/I:UASTRAUS
APPROVED BY AF/I:WHLEWIS
AF:TSEELYE
EUR/CE:LHEICHLER

-----221855Z 066678 /45

R 220130Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090755

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG, GW

SUBJECT: FRG REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON U.S. AFRICAN POLICY

REF: BONN 06625

1. IN RESPONSE TO FONMIN GENSCHER'S QUERY ABOUT US AFRICAN
POLICY, YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING:

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: WITH THREE SEPARATE AREAS OF HIGH
TENSION, AFRICA HAS BECOME A FOCAL POINT FOR THIRD WORLD
RELATIONS WITH THE WEST AND FOR COMPETITION BETWEEN THE US
AND THE USSR. RECENT VISITS TO AFRICA BY CASTRO AND
PODGORNY ATTEST TO THE GROWING IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO
AFRICA BY THE COMMUNIST LEADERS AND THEIR APPARENT EXPEC-
TATION OF FINDING ATTRACTIVE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY THERE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 090755

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE ISSUE: IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE
WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN UNITED IN THEIR DETERMINATION
TO EFFECT A PEACEFUL TRANSFER TO MAJORITY RULE IN NAMIBIA
AND RHODESIA. WE HAVE GIVEN SOLID SUPPORT TO UK FOREIGN
SECRETARY OWEN'S RECENT INITIATIVE TO RECOMMENCE THE GENEVA
TALKS AND ARE CURRENTLY STUDYING T;E REACTIONS TO THE
PROPOSALS HE PRESENTED DURING HIS AFRICAN TRIP. WE ARE

WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE GERMANS AND OTHER WESTERN ALLIES

ON DEMARCHES CONCERNING NAMIBIA. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN REVIEWING OUR POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA TO SEE WHAT WE MIGHT DO TO HELP EFFECT A PEACEFUL CHANGE FROM INSTITUTIONALIZED RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND TOWARD RESPECT FOR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS. THE PRESENT INSTABILITIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA ARE READILY EXPLOITABLE BY THE SOVIETS, WHO EVIDENTLY SEE A MILITARY SOLUTION AS THE ONLY REALISTIC OUTCOME.

IN ZAIRE, WE CONTINUE TO PLACE MAXIMUM IMPORTANCE ON THE NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT. THE ADVANCE OF THE KATANGAN GENDARMES BASED IN ANGOLA APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN STOPPED WITH THE ARRIVAL OF MOROCCAN TROOPS IN SHABA. WE HAVE PROVIDED A TOTAL OF \$15 MILLION IN NON-LETHAL AID TO ZAIRE. THE FRENCH AND BELGIANS HAVE PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY MATERIEL, AND THE FRENCH HAVE ALSO PROVIDED TRANSPORT FOR SOME OF THE MOROCCAN EFFORT. FOR THE TIME BEING, MOBUTU'S POSITION APPEARS RELATIVELY SECURE. PRESIDENT GISCARD'S ACTION WAS SEVERELY CRITICIZED BY THE FRENCH LEFTIST OPPOSITION, BUT ;AS DRAWN MUCH PRAISE FROM THE MODERATE FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN STATES.

IN THE HORN, THE INDEPENDENCE OF DJIBOUTI, SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 27, 1977, MAY EXACERBATE TENSIONS BETWEEN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA. THE RADICAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT HAS VEERED TOWARD THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS, FROM WHOM IT IS RECEIVING ARMS AND OTHER MILITARY AID. THE SOVIET
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 090755

POSITION IN SOMALIA HAS WEAKENED AS A CONSEQUENCE. THE US IS ADJUSTING ITS POSITION IN THE HORN, SHARPLY REDUCING ITS MILITARY AID TO ETHIOPIA AND INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITIES OF A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOMALIS. MODERATE ARAB STATES INCLUDING SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT ARE ATTEMPTING TO CREATE A ANTI-COMMUNIST SECURITY BELT IN THE RED SEA AREA.

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS

-- WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SOVIET/CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA IN LIGHT OF THEIR ABILITY TO EXPLOIT INSTABILITIES THERE.

-- IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WE SEE NO ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO OUR POLICY OF PRESSING FOR THE PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER TO MAJORITY RULE IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA. WE ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE GERMANS AND OTHER WESTERN ALLIES IN THIS ENDEAVOR. WE ALSO HOPE TO SEE A PEACEFUL

EVOLUTION AWAY FROM APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT ACTIONS OF THE MOROCCANS AND FRENCH WILL HELP STABILIZE THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SHABA AND GIVE THE NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORT, WHICH WE SUPPORT, A CHANCE TO BEAR FRUIT.

-- AS A RESULT OF A REEXAMINATION OF OUR POLICIES IN EAST AFRICA, WE ARE REDUCING OUR COMMITMENTS IN ETHIOPIA (WHICH HAS ADOPTED A DECIDEDLY ANTI-AMERICAN LINE) AND ARE ENDEAVORING TO ESTABLISH BETTER RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA. WE BELIEVE THAT A CONTINUED FRENCH TROOP PRESENCE IN POST-INDEPENDENT DJIBOUTI WOULD HELP STABILIZE THE SITUATION IN THE HORN.

2. IN ADDITION, YOU MAY INFORM GENSC;ER THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY DRAFTING OVERALL APPROACH TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 090755

AFRICAN POLICY AND THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL BE INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN POLICY FORMULATIONS IN THIS AREA. WE WILL BE GLAD TO CONSULT FURTHER WITH THE GERMANS AFTER COMPLETION OF THIS REVIEW PROCESS.
VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION EXCHANGE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION, BRIEFING MATERIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE090755
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: UASTRAUS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770141-0008
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770428/aaaaaxuw.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2f148ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BONN 6625
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2719868
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON U.S. AFRICAN POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, CG, GE, XA, SF, US, (GENSCHER, HANS-DIETRICH)
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2f148ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009